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EXPONENTIAL BOUNDS OF MEAN ERROR FOR THE NEAREST NEIGHBOR ESTIMATES OF REGRESSION FUNCTIONS*

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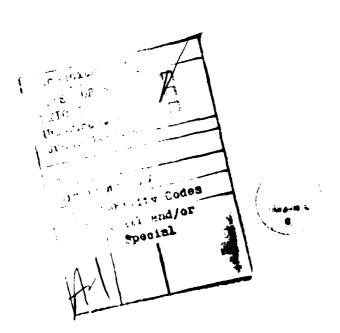
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ABSTRACT

Let (X,Y), (X_1,Y_1) ,..., (X_n,Y_n) be i.i.d. R^r X R- valued random vectors with $E|Y| < \infty$, and let $m_n(x)$ be a nearest neighbor estimate of the regression function m(x) = E(Y|X=x). In this paper, we establish an exponential bound of the mean deviation between $m_n(x)$ and m(x) given the training sample $Z_1^n = (X_1,Y_1,\ldots,X_n,Y_n)$, under the conditions as weak as possible. This is a substantial improvement on Beck's result.

Key words. Regression function, nearest neighbor estimate, exponential bound, mean error, training sample.



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1. INTRODUCTION

Let (X,Y), (X_1,Y_1) ,..., (X_n,Y_n) be i.i.d. $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}$ - valued random vectors with $\mathbb{E}|Y| < \infty$. To estimate $m(x) = \mathbb{E}(Y|X=x)$, the regression function of Y with respect to X, Stone (1977) and others proposed the so-called weight estimation

(1)
$$m_{\mathbf{n}}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} W_{\mathbf{n}j}(x)Y_{j},$$

where $W_{nj}(x)=W_{nj}(x,X_1,\ldots,X_n)$ is a Borel-measurable function of its arguments. Let V_{nj} , $j=1,\ldots,n$, be non-negative real number such that $\sum\limits_{j=1}^n V_{nj}=1$. For suitable-chosen metric ||a-b|| on R^d (such as L_2 or L_{∞}), rearrange X_j , $j=1,\ldots,n$:

(2)
$$||x_1^x - x|| \le ||x_2^x - x|| \le \ldots \le ||x_n^x - x||$$

(ties are broken by comparing indices), and set

(3)
$$m_n(x) = \sum_{j=1}^n v_{n,j} Y_j^x$$

Then we obtain the nearest neighbor (NN) estimates of m(x).

Many scholars studied convergence problem of these estimates from different points of view. (For the universal consistency, one can refer to, for example, Stone (1977). For the pointwise moment-consistency, see Devroye (1981). For the pointwise a.s. consistency, see Devroye (1981), Zhao and Bai (1984)). In this paper, we study another convergency of these estimates.

Write $X^n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$, $Y^n = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$ and $Z^n = (X^n, Y^n)$. Let $g_n = g_n(x, Z^n)$ be an estimate of m(x). In some problems, we are interested in the following mean deviation of g_n given the training sample Z^n :

(4)
$$D(g_n) = E\{|g_n(x,Z^n)-m(x)||Z^n\}$$
$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |g_n(x,Z^n)-m(x)|Q(dx),$$

where Q denotes the distribution of X.

Take $k=k_n \le n$, and put

(5)
$$\tilde{m}_{n}(x) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^{k} Y_{j}^{x}.$$

For this class of estimates, Beck (1979) established the following theorem:

Suppose that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (6) (i) Y is bounded.
 - (ii) m(x) is continuous on R^d .
 - (iii) Q has a continuous density f.
 - (iv) $k\rightarrow\infty$ and $k/n\rightarrow0$ as $n\rightarrow\infty$.

Then, for any given $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$P\{D(\bar{m}_n) \ge \varepsilon\} \le e^{-cn}$$

where C>0 is a constant independent of n.

This theorem deals only with a special case of NN estimates, and the assumptions are rather restrictive. Recently, we substantially improved this result. We established the following:

Theorem 1. Let $m_n(x)$ be a NN estimate of m(x) defined by (2) and (3). Suppose that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (7) (i) Y is bounded.
 - (ii) Q has a density f.
 - (iii) There exists a sequence of integers $k = k_n$ such that

$$k\rightarrow\infty$$
, $k/n\rightarrow 0$,

$$\sup_{n} \{k \max_{1 \leq j \leq k} V_{nj}\} < \infty \text{ and } j = k+1 \leq k+1 \leq n, j \neq 0.$$

Then for any given €>0, we have

$$P\{D(m_n) \ge \varepsilon\} \le e^{-Cn},$$

where C>0 is a constant independent of n.

Note that the special case considered by Beck is included in this theorem. Besides, this theorem gives a substantial improvement of Beck's result, by getting rid of the continuity requirement of m(x) and f(x), the density of Q.

2. SOME LEMMAS.

Theorem 1 is valid for the L_2 norm or L_∞ norm on R^d , here we only give the proof for L_∞ norm. For simplicity, we make the following convention: $\varepsilon, \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \ldots, C, C_0, C_1, \ldots, \alpha, \beta_1, \beta_2, \delta$, etc., are all constants independent of n. I_A or I(A) denotes the indicator of a set A. #(A) denotes the cardinal of set A. $S_{x,p} = \{u \in R^d: ||u-x|| \le p\}$. Q^* and χ^* denote the outer measure generated by Q and the Lebesque measure χ (on R^d), respectively. We need the following lemmas in the sequel.

Lemma 1 (Besicovitch Covering Lemma). Let E be bounded subset of R^d , and let K be a family of cubes covering E which contains a cube D_X with center x for each xeE. Then there exist points $\{x_k\}$ in E such that

- (i) ECUD_{X,}.
- (ii) there exists a constant σ depending only on d such that $\sum_k I(D_x) \leq \sigma$. Refer to Wheeden and Zygmund (1977), pp. 185-187.

Let Q_n be the empirical measure of X_1, \ldots, X_n , and T>o be a given constant. Fix $\delta \in (0, 1/2\sigma)$ and assume that $h = h_n \in (0, 1)$. Set (8) $G_n^* = \{x \in S_0, T: Q_n(S_{x,h}) < \delta Q(S_{x,h}) \}$. and

(9)
$$E^* = \{x \in S_{0,T} : \beta_1(2 \cdot \rho)^d \leq Q(S_{x,h}) \leq \beta_2(2 \rho)^d$$

for any $\rho \in (0,1)\},$

Where β_1 >0 and β_2 >0 are constants to be chosen later.

LEMMA 2. suppose that Q has a density f. Then for any $\varepsilon > 0$, we can choose β_1 small enough and β_2 large enough such that $Q^*(S_{0,T}^-E^*) < \varepsilon$.

Note that for any Borel-measurable set $E \subset E^*$, we have

$$\beta_1 \le f(x) \le \beta_2$$
, for almost all $x \in E(\lambda)$.

LEMMA 3. Suppose that Q has a density f, h = h_n $\epsilon(0,1)$ and nh^d $\rightarrow \infty$. Then for any given $\epsilon > 0$, we have

$$P\{Q^*(G_n^*) \ge \varepsilon\} < e^{-C}1^n.$$

Lemmas 2 and 3 can be deduced from Lemma 1. For the proof, see Zhao (1985).

Lemma 4. Suppose that $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |g(x)|^p F(dx) < \infty$ for some p > 0, then

$$\lim_{h\to\infty}\int_{S_{x,h}}|g(u)-g(x)|^pF(du)/F(S_{x,h})=0$$

for almost all x(F).

Refer to Wheeden and Zygmund (1977), p. 191, example 20.

3. Proof of Theorem 1

Suppose that $|Y| \leq M$. Then

$$\int \left| \sum_{j>k} V_{nj} (Y_j^{X} - m(x)) \right| Q(dx) \le 2M \sum_{j>k} V_{nj} + 0$$

as n $\to \infty$. Without loss of generality, we can assume $\sum\limits_{j>k} V_{nj} = 0$ for any n. It is enough to prove that for each fixed T > 0,

(10)
$$P\{\int_{S_{0},T/2} |m_n(x)-m(x)|Q(dx) \ge \varepsilon\} < e^{-cn}.$$

By Lemma 2, there exists $\beta_i = \beta_i(\epsilon)$, i=1,2, and a compact set $E \subset E^*$ such that

(11)
$$Q(S_{0,T}-E) < \varepsilon/8M,$$

where E* is defined by (9).

Fix $\delta \epsilon(0, \frac{1}{2}\sigma)$, and take $\alpha \ge (2^d \beta_1 \delta)^{-1}$. Set

$$h = h_n = (\alpha k/n)^{1/d},$$

then $h \to 0$ and $nh^d \to \infty$ as $n \to \infty$.

By Lemma 3, there exists a compact set $H_{\mathbf{n}}$ such that with \mathbf{h} as above

(12)
$$H_{n} \subset \{x \in S_{0,T} : Q_{n}(S_{x,h}) \geq \delta Q(S_{x,h})\}$$

and

(13)
$$P\{Q(S_{0,T}-H_n) \ge \varepsilon/8M\} < e^{-c_1 n}.$$

For $x \in H_n \cap E$, $Q_n(S_{n,h}) \ge \delta Q(S_{x,h}) \ge \beta_1 \delta \lambda(S_{x,h}) = \beta_1 \delta 2^d \alpha k/n \ge k/n$, so that X_1^x , X_2^x ,..., X_k^x all fall into $S_{x,h}$.

Partition R^d into sets with the form $\prod_{j=1}^{d} [(i_j-1)h, i_jh)$, where i_1 ,

..., $i_d = 0, \pm 1, \ldots$ Call the partition Ψ . Set $\Psi' = \{B \in \Psi, B \subset S_{0,T}\}$. For $B \in \Psi'$, put

$$\widetilde{W}(B) = \{B' \in \Psi, \rho(B,B') < 3h\}, W(B) = U_{B'} \in \widetilde{W}(B)^{B'},$$

where $\rho(B,B')=\inf\{||x-x'||: x\in B, x'\in B'\}$. Then there exists a constant C_d such that for any $B\in \Psi'$ we have $\#(\widetilde{W}(B))\leq C_d$. It is easy to show by induction that, Ψ' can be divided into $C_2(\leq C_d^2)$ disjoint subsets Ψ_i , i=1, ..., C_2 , such that for any two sets B_1 , B_2 in the same Ψ_i , we have

$$W(B_1) \cap W(B_2) = \emptyset.$$

Denote by B(x) the cube $B \in \Psi$ which contains x. If $x \in H_n \cap E$ and $B(x) \in \Psi'$, then for any $u \in B(x)$, we have $S_{x,h} \subset S_{u,2h} \subset W(B(x))$, so that, from $Q_n(S_{x,h})$ $\geq k/n$ it follows that X_1^u, \ldots, X_k^u are also contained in W(B(x)). If we write

$$A_n = \{B \in \Psi^t : B \cap H_n \cap E \neq \emptyset\}$$

then, as mentioned above, for any $B \in A_n$, W(B) contains the k nearest neighbors of each $x \in B$. Further, we set $H_i = A_n \cap \Psi_i$, $i=1,2,\ldots,C_2$. It is easy to see that

$$\int_{S_{0,T/2}} |m_n(x) - m(x)| Q(dx) \le \int_{S_{0,T-E}} + \int_{S_{0,T}-H_n} + \int_{H_n \cap E \cap S_{0,T/2}}.$$

By (11), we have

$$\int_{S_{0,T-E}} |m_n(x)-m(x)|Q(dx) \leq 2MQ(S_{0,T}-E) < \varepsilon/4.$$

By (13),

$$P(\int_{S_{0,T}-H_n} |m_n(x)-m(x)|Q(dx) \ge \varepsilon/4)$$

 $\le P\{Q(S_{0,T}-H_n) \ge \varepsilon/8M\} < e^{-c_1 n}$.

Hence to prove (10), it is enough to prove that

(14)
$$P\{\int_{H_{n}\cap E\cap S_{0,T/2}} |m_{n}(x)-m(x)|Q(dx) \ge \varepsilon/2\} < e^{-C_{3}n}.$$

For large n,

$$\int_{\mathsf{H}_{\mathsf{n}} \cap \mathsf{E} \cap \mathsf{S}_{\mathsf{0},\mathsf{T/2}}} |\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{n}}(\mathsf{x}) - \mathsf{m}(\mathsf{x})| \mathsf{Q}(\mathsf{d}\mathsf{x})$$

$$\leq \sum_{\substack{\mathsf{B} \in \mathsf{A}_{\mathsf{n}} \\ \mathsf{C}_{\mathsf{2}}}} \int_{\mathsf{B} \cap \mathsf{E}} |\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{n}}(\mathsf{x}) - \mathsf{m}(\mathsf{x})| \mathsf{Q}(\mathsf{d}\mathsf{x})$$

$$\leq \sum_{\mathsf{i}=1}^{\mathsf{C}} \sum_{\mathsf{B} \in \mathsf{H}_{\mathsf{i}}} \int_{\mathsf{B} \cap \mathsf{E}} |\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{n}}(\mathsf{x}) - \mathsf{m}(\mathsf{x})| \mathsf{Q}(\mathsf{d}\mathsf{x}).$$

Put

$$\widetilde{m}_{n}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{k} V_{nj} m(X_{j}^{X}),$$

$$I_{ni} = \sum_{B \in H_{i}} \int_{B \cap E} |m_{n}(x) - \widetilde{m}_{n}(x)| Q(dx),$$

(15)
$$J_{ni} = \sum_{B \in \mathcal{H}_{i}} \int_{B \cap E} |\widetilde{m}_{n}(x) - m(x)| Q(dx), i=1,...,C_{2}.$$

$$\phi(B) = \int_{B \cap E} |\sum_{j=1}^{k} V_{nj}(Y_{j}^{x} - m(X_{j}^{x}))| Q(dx)/Q(B \cap E),$$

$$d_{ni} = \#\{BeH_{i}, \phi(B) \ge \varepsilon/(8C_{2})\}, i=1,...,C_{2}.$$

To prove (14), it is enough to show that, for each i, $1 \le i \le C_2$, we have

(16)
$$P\{I_{ni} \geq \varepsilon/(4C_2)\} < e^{-C_4 n}$$

(17)
$$P\{J_{ni} \geq \varepsilon/(4C_2)\} < e^{-C_5 n}.$$

For almost all $x \in B \cap E(\lambda)$, $f(x) \leq \beta_2$. Hence,

$$I_{ni} \leq \varepsilon/(8C_2) + 2Md_{ni}\beta_2\alpha k/n$$

Write $C_6 = \varepsilon (16MC_2 \alpha \beta_2)^{-1}$, then

(18)
$$P\{I_{ni} \geq \varepsilon/(4C_2)\} \leq P\{d_{ni} \geq C_6^{n/k}\}.$$

Now we proceed to prove that, for any $B \in H_1$,

(19)
$$P\{\phi(B) \geq \varepsilon/8C_2 | X^n \} < e^{-C_7 k},$$

where $X^n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is defined as before.

For any ϵ_1 > 0 and s > 0, by Jensen's inequality we have

$$(20) \quad P\{\phi(B) \ge \varepsilon_1 | X^n\} \le e^{-s\varepsilon_1} E\{\exp(s\phi(B)) | X^n\}$$

$$\le e^{-s\varepsilon_1} \int_{B \cap E} E\{\exp(s | \sum_{j=1}^k V_{nj} [Y_j^x - m(X_j^x)] | | X^n\} Q(dx) / Q(B \cap E).$$

When $\{X_j^x, j \le k\}$ is given, Y_1^x, \ldots, Y_k^x are independent. From this and the inequality $|e^t-1-t| \le \frac{1}{2}t^2e^{|t|}$ for any real t, it follows that,

$$\begin{split} & E\{\exp(s\sum_{j=1}^{k} V_{nj}[Y_{j}^{x} - m(X_{j}^{x})]) | X^{n}\} \\ & = \prod_{j=1}^{k} E\{\exp(sV_{nj}[Y_{j}^{x} - m(X_{j}^{x})]) | X_{j}^{x}\} \\ & \leq \prod_{j=1}^{k} \{1 + s^{2}C_{8}^{2}k^{-2}\exp(2sC_{8}k^{-1})\} \\ & \leq \exp\{s^{2}C_{8}^{2}k^{-1}\exp(2sC_{8}k^{-1})\}. \end{split}$$

Here we have written $C_9 = \sup_{n} \{k \max_{j \le k} V_{nj}\}$ and $C_8 = C_9 M$. In the same way,

$$E\{\exp(s \sum_{j=1}^{k} V_{nj}[m(X_{j}^{x})-Y_{j}^{x}])|X^{n}\}$$

$$\leq \exp\{s^{2}C_{8}^{2}k^{-1}\exp(2sC_{8}k^{-1})\}.$$

In view of (20), we get

$$P\{\phi(B) \ge \epsilon_1 | \chi^n\} \le 2 \exp\{-s\epsilon_1 + s^2 C_8^2 k^{-1} \exp(2sC_8 k^{-1})\}$$

Take $s = \mu k$ with μ being small enough, we have

$$P\{\phi(B) \geq \varepsilon_1 | \chi^n\} < e^{-C_{10}k}.$$

This is just (19).

Since for each $B \in \mathcal{H}_i$, W(B) contains the k nearest neighbors of each $x \in B$, and $W(B_1) \cap W(B_2) = \emptyset$ for any B_1 , $B_2 \in \mathcal{H}_i$, we see that when $X^n = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is given, $\{\phi(B), B \in \mathcal{H}_i\}$ is a group of conditionally independent variables. Put $G(B) = \{\phi(B) \geq \epsilon_1\}$. Then by (19) and $\#(\mathcal{H}_i) \leq \#(\Psi^i) \leq C_{11}n/k$, we have

$$P\{d_{ni} \geq C_{6}n/k|X^{n}\}$$

$$\leq P\{U_{H} \subset H_{i}, \#(H) \geq C_{6}n/k \cap \mathbb{R} \in H^{G(B)}|X^{n}\}$$

$$\leq \sum_{H} H_{i}, \#(H) \geq C_{6}n/k P(\bigcap_{B \in H} G(B)|X^{n})$$

$$= \sum_{H} H_{i}, \#(H) \geq C_{6}n/k \mathbb{R} \in H^{P(G(B)}|X^{n})$$

$$\leq \sum_{C_{6}n/k \leq j \leq \#(H_{i})} {\#(H_{i}) \choose j} (e^{-C_{7}k})^{j}$$

$$\leq e^{-C_{6}C_{7}n} \#(H_{i}) \leq 2^{-C_{6}C_{7}n} \mathbb{C}_{11}^{n/k} \leq e^{-C_{12}n}.$$

From (18) and (21) it follows (16) is valid.

Now we proceed to prove (17). As mentioned above, for each $B \in \mathcal{H}_i$, X_1^X, \ldots, X_k^X all fall into W(B). Noticing the conditions imposed on V_{nj} 's, we see that

(22)
$$J_{ni} = \sum_{B \in \mathcal{H}_{i}} \int_{B \cap E} |\int_{j=1}^{K} V_{nj}(m(X_{j}^{x}) - m(x))| Q(dx)$$

$$\leq C_{9} k^{-1} \sum_{B \in \Psi_{i}} \int_{j=1}^{n} I_{W(B)}(X_{j}) \int_{B \cap E} |m(X_{j}) - m(x)| Q(dx)$$

$$= C_{9} k^{-1} \sum_{B \in \Psi_{i}} \int_{j=1}^{n} I_{W(B)}(X_{j}) Z_{B}(X_{j}),$$

where

(23)
$$Z_{B}(u) = \int_{B \cap E} |m(u)-m(x)| Q(dx) \leq 2M\beta_{2}\alpha k/n.$$

Here, the following facts are used: $|m(x)| \le M$, $f(x) \le \beta_2$ for $x \in B \cap E$ and, $\lambda(B) \le h^d = \alpha k/n$.

Put $\varepsilon_2 = \varepsilon (8C_2C_9)^{-1}$. To prove (17), it suffices to prove that $P\{\sum_{B \in \Psi_j} \sum_{j=1}^n I_{W(B)}(X_j)Z_B(X_j) \ge 2k\varepsilon_2\} < e^{-C_{13}n}.$

Let N be a Poisson random variable with parameter n, which is independent of X_1, X_2, \dots If $|N-n| < n\epsilon_3 = n\epsilon_2/(2M\beta_2\alpha)$, then by (23)

$$|\sum_{B \in \Psi_{\mathbf{j}}} (\sum_{j=1}^{n} I_{W(B)}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) Z_{B}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) - \sum_{j=1}^{n} I_{W(B)}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) Z_{B}(X_{\mathbf{j}}))|$$

$$\leq |N-n| 2M\beta_{2} \alpha k/n < \epsilon_{2} k.$$

It follows that

(25)
$$P\{\sum_{B \in \Psi_{\mathbf{j}}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} I_{W(B)}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) Z_{B}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) \ge 2k\varepsilon_{2}\}$$

$$\leq P(|N-n| \ge n\varepsilon_{3}) + P\{\sum_{B \in \Psi_{\mathbf{j}}} \sum_{j=1}^{N} I_{W(B)}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) Z_{B}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) > k\varepsilon_{2}\}$$

It is easy to show that

(26)
$$P\{|N-n| \ge n\varepsilon_3\} < e^{-C_1 4^n}.$$

Since W(B), $B \in \Psi_i$, are disjoint, we see that for t > 0,

$$P\{\sum_{B\in\Psi_{\mathbf{i}}}\sum_{\mathbf{j}=1}^{N}I_{W(B)}(X_{\mathbf{j}})Z_{B}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) > k\varepsilon_{2}\}$$

$$\leq e^{-t\varepsilon_{2}k}\sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty}\frac{e^{-n}n^{\ell}}{\ell^{\frac{1}{\ell}}}\left(E\{\exp(t\sum_{B\in\Psi_{\mathbf{i}}}I_{W(B)}(X_{\mathbf{1}})Z_{B}(X_{\mathbf{1}}))\}\right)^{\ell}$$

$$= e^{-t\varepsilon_{2}k}e^{-n}\sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty}\frac{n^{\ell}}{\ell^{\frac{1}{\ell}}}\left(\sum_{B\in\Psi_{\mathbf{i}}}\int_{W(B)}e^{tZ_{B}(u)}Q(du) + 1 - Q(\bigcup_{B\in\Psi_{\mathbf{i}}}W(B))\right)^{\ell}$$

$$= \exp\{-t\varepsilon_{2}k + n\sum_{B\in\Psi_{\mathbf{i}}}\int_{W(B)}(e^{tZ_{B}(u)}-1)Q(du)\}$$

Now we proceed to show that

(28)
$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \sup_{B\in\Psi_i} \int_{W(B)} \left[\exp\left(\frac{n}{k}Z_B(u)\right) - 1\right] Q(du) = 0.$$

By (23), there exist constants C_{15} , C_{16} such that

$$\frac{n}{k}Z_B(u) \leq C_{15}$$

and

$$\exp(\frac{n}{k}Z_B(u)) - 1 \le C_{16} \frac{n}{k}Z_B(u)$$
.

To prove (28), it suffices to show that

(29)
$$\limsup_{n\to\infty} \frac{n}{k} \sum_{B\in\Psi_i} \int_{B\cap E} Q(dx) \int_{W(B)} |m(u)-m(x)| Q(du) = 0.$$

Assume that $B \in \Psi_i$, $B \cap E \neq \emptyset$ and $x \in B \cap E$, then $W(B) \subset S_{x,5h}$, where $h = (\alpha k/n)^{1/d}$. By Lemma 2,

$$Q(S_{x,5h}) \leq \beta_2(10h)^d = 10^d \beta_2 \alpha k/n.$$

Put $C_{17} = 10^d \beta_2 \alpha$, then

(30)
$$\frac{n}{k} \sum_{B \in \Psi_{i}} \int_{B \cap E} Q(dx) \int_{W(B)} |m(u) - m(x)| Q(du)$$

$$\leq C_{17} \sum_{B \in \Psi_{i}} \int_{B \cap E} Q(dx) \{ \int_{S_{x,5h}} |m(u) - m(x)| Q(du) / Q(S_{x,5h}) \}$$

$$\leq C_{17} \int_{Q(dx)} \{ \int_{S_{x,5h}} |m(u) - m(x)| Q(du) / Q(S_{x,5h}) \}$$

By Lemma 4, for almost all x(Q),

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\int_{S_{x,5h}}|m(u)-m(x)|Q(du)/Q(S_{x,5h})=0.$$

Further, for $x \in S(Q)$, the support of Q, we have

$$\int_{S_{x,5h}} |m(u)-m(x)|Q(du)/Q(S_{x,5h}) \le 2M$$

Hence, by the dominated convergence theorem, (29) is valid. Thus (28) is proved.

Take t = n/k in (27), we have

(31)
$$P\{\sum_{B \in \Psi_{\mathbf{j}}} \sum_{j=1}^{N} I_{W(B)}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) Z_{B}(X_{\mathbf{j}}) > k \varepsilon_{2}\}$$

$$\leq \exp\{-\varepsilon_{2} n + o(n)\} \leq e^{-C} 18^{n}.$$

From (25), (26) and (31), it follows that (24) holds, and (17) is valid. From (16) and (17), Theorem 1 is proved.

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Let (X,Y) $(X_1Y_1),\dots,(X_n,Y_n)$ be i.i.d. $R'\times R$ -valued random vectors with $E Y <\infty$, and let $m_n(x)$ be a nearest neighbor estimate of the regression function $m(x)=E(Y X=x)$. In this paper, we establish an exponential bound of the mean deviation between $m_n(x)$ and $m(x)$ given the training sample	

= $(x_1, y_1, ..., x_n, y_n)$, under the conditions as weak as possible. This is

a substantial improvement on Beck's result.

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